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NFAC 2747-80

14 April 1980

MEMORANDUM FOR:

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SUBJECT: Critical Long Range Issues

Re your memo of 7 April 1980 on the subject, my response is as follows:

a. Criteria for selection and refinement. Recommend six criterion taken from the two lists as follows:

- #1 - #1 from List A (essentially same as #1, List B)
- #2 - #2 from List A (essentially same as #4, List B)
- #3 - #3 from List A
- #4 - #4 from List A (Note: #5, List A is subsumed under #4, List A)
- #5 - #2 from List B
- #6 - #3 from List B

b. Critical Long Range Issues. My list has 14 candidates (12 from my previous list with memo of 27 March 1980 plus 2 new ones). They are:

1 Long term implications for the United States of a decline in the cohesion and strength of the NATO Alliance.

2 Long term implications for the United States of the economic, industrial and political development of the Pacific Basin to a level rivaling NATO.

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3 Soviet penetration (political-economic-military) of the Third World (1985-95); Soviet objectives, capabilities and limitations, intentions and prospects by region; long term implications for the United States.

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SUBJECT: Critical Long Range Issues

4 Long term implications of an indefinite period of slow economic growth, world-wide, for the US and advanced Western nations; the USSR and East Europe; China; developing nations--OPEC, Brazil, RoK, etc; and LDCs.

5 Intelligence collection in support of I&W and crisis monitoring.

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7 Long term security and intelligence implications of advances in communications technology.

8 Long term inevitability of nuclear proliferation; implications; need for new approaches to international cooperation and controls.

9 Long term impact of quantitative growth and qualitative improvements in Soviet ground forces and tactical air and naval systems on the East-West military balance; need to expand and improve US collection and analytical capabilities and efforts in this field.

10 Long range study to establish areas/ countries, world-wide, of relatively unchanging importance to the US (1985-95); develop projected minimum overseas base structure (to include base rights, overflight rights, etc.) needed for US power projection in defense of US interests; and estimate prospects for achieving such a structure.

11 Long range forecast of extent and nature of arms trade and technology transfer world-wide; implications for the US.

12 Long term study to develop the storage, manipulation and display system for the very large volumes of data needed in 1985-95, but beyond the planned capabilities of SAFE.

SUBJECT: Critical Long Range Issues

13 Long term study to develop the collection and analytical systems for 1985-95 to provide intelligence on foreign technologies and S&T policies, as well as foreign national economic and industrial planning, needed by the US to remain competitive in foreign trade.

14 Soviet and Warsaw Pact intentions and capabilities to wage offensive chemical and biological warfare against the United States and NATO.

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